

# INFORMATION LETTER

Not for  
Publication

NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION

For Members  
Only

No. 708

Washington, D. C.

August 20, 1938

## ANDREWS TAKES OATH OF OFFICE

### Administrator of Wage and Hour Law Discusses Problems at Press Conference

Elmer F. Andrews took the oath of office as Administrator of the Fair Labor Standards Act (the wage and hour law) on August 16th, and immediately after held a press conference at which he discussed various problems in connection with the administration of the new law.

The former New York State Industrial Commissioner disclosed that his first step toward administering the new law will be to name an industry committee for the textile industry, the committee to be composed of either nine or fifteen members, depending on whether silk divisions of the industry are included.

At the same time he indicated that committees for the tobacco and cotton garment industries would be the next to be named and that he felt it was not feasible to hold hearings on minimum wages for more than three industries at one time. Emphasizing that he wished to avoid confusion in the administration of the Act, he stated that he plans to arrange a schedule of the industries to be served under the new law. The schedule is to be based upon the desire of the industry, as expressed by employers and employees, and the need for a minimum wage in industries paying unusually low wages.

The industry committees by law must be composed of an equal number of members representing employers, employees, and the public. In commenting on the selection of the public members of the committees, the Administrator stated that he would try to provide for one member to be from agriculture, one to be a business man connected with a large consumer of the industry's product, and the third to be from the general public. He offered no explanation of the plan to be followed in choosing the industry members of the committees, but admitted that it will be difficult to select the labor representatives.

The Act vests in the administrator a great amount of discretionary power to be exercised through the issuance of orders, rulings, regulations, and interpretations. Mr. Andrews said he hoped to have many of these ready at the time the Act goes into effect on October 24.

When questioned by members of the press as to where he feels administrative difficulties may be encountered, Mr. Andrews said that he expected seasonal industries would be very troublesome, that is, the administrative task of defining seasonal industries under the sections granting exemptions from the maximum hour provisions of the law. According to the Administrator another problem that may prove difficult to solve is the issuance of orders providing for lower than minimum wages under the learners, apprentices, and handicapped workers section of the statute.

A total staff of approximately 1,000 civil service employees is visualized by Mr. Andrews as necessary for proper ad-

ministration of the law. Key assistants to be named by the Administrator and to be under civil service are a deputy administrator, two assistant administrators (one for industry committee work and one for compliance work), and a general counsel.

## FOOD STANDARDS COMMITTEE NAMED

### Duties Will Be to Formulate Definitions and Standards of Identity and Quality

Section 401 of the new Federal Food and Drugs Act authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to adopt and promulgate for any food (with certain exceptions) "a reasonable definition and standard of identity, a reasonable standard of quality, and/or reasonable standards of fill and container." Under date of August 13, 1938, the U. S. Department of Agriculture announced the appointment of a Food Standards Committee to formulate such definitions and standards and to advise the Secretary of Agriculture. The announcement of the Food and Drug Administration reads as follows:

"It is the intention of the Food and Drug Administration to perpetuate the food standards committee which has functioned in promulgating administrative standards for the last 25 years, reports W. G. Campbell, Chief. This committee has consisted of representatives from the Association of Official Agricultural Chemists, the Association of Dairy, Food and Drug Officials of the United States, and the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Members of the new committee are:

"For the Association of Official Agricultural Chemists: C. D. Howard, Director and Chief, Division of Chemistry and Sanitation, State Board of Health, Concord, N. H.; Guy G. Frary, State Chemist, Vermillion, South Dakota.

"For the Association of Dairy, Food and Drug Officials of the United States: J. J. Taylor, State Chemist, Department of Agriculture, Tallahassee, Florida; Mrs. F. C. Dugan, Director, Bureau of Foods, Drugs and Hotels, State Board of Health, Louisville, Kentucky.

"For the Food and Drug Administration: W. B. White, Chief, Food Division; W. S. Frisbie, Chief, Division of State Cooperation.

"The duties of the committee will be to formulate definitions and standards both of identity and of quality, including fill of container, after consideration of all of the data—analytical and inspectional—deemed essential to support them. The committee will meet in the Food and Drug Administration at Washington at intervals to review the data which have been assembled, draft tentative standards, and then upon the conclusion of public hearings, required by the Act, make its final recommendations. Under the new Act these definitions and standards when promulgated by the Secretary will have the full force and effect of law.

"The first committee to consider food standards was one appointed by the Association of Official Agricultural Chemists in 1897. This committee was originally headed by Dr. Harvey W. Wiley. By virtue of the Congressional appropriation act of June 3, 1902, the Department of Agriculture

was authorized to investigate food standards and the Association of Official Agricultural Chemists committee was named for this purpose. This committee was supplemented in 1905 by the appointment of a representative of the Association of Dairy, Food and Drug Officials. The tri-partite form of the committee was established as the result of a general conference between State and Federal food and drug officials held in November, 1913."

### Seeks Cannery Approval of Size Changes

In line with the efforts of the National Cannery Association in its cooperation with the National Bureau of Standards to standardize and reduce the number of sizes of cans used for fruits and vegetables, the Cannery League of California recently circularized western canners asking them to signify their approval of changes that will bring certain sizes into conformance with closely corresponding cans used in the East and Middle West. These changes have the approval of the Board of Directors of the League, and the can companies, it is stated, are prepared to make the changes as rapidly as possible after the individual canners have agreed to the program. The changes proposed are as follows:

No. 2	Change from 307 x 408	to 307 x 409
No. 10	Change from 603 x 615.25	to 603 x 700
No. 3 Cylinder	Change from 404 x 615.25	to 404 x 700

### CONSUMER MOVEMENT IN ENGLAND

#### Educational Work Being Developed Along Same Lines as in the United States

While in London on a vacation visit, Miss Atwater of the Association's Home Economics Division had an opportunity to discuss the consumer education movement both with women working in this field and with newspaperwomen.

The consumer movement is only in its infancy in Great Britain, but the women who are leaders in the public relations field are following it closely and are already sending out educational material especially prepared to help women in dealing with their household problems.

The electric and gas industries are carrying on extensive educational programs throughout the country to teach women how to use electric and gas appliances. They help with kitchen planning, and give food demonstrations to teach the use of cooking and other equipment. A program for social activities is sponsored by the utility companies, as well as training courses for both mistress and maid. The women in charge of the work prepare recipe booklets and other suitable material for distribution to their groups. The set-up is quite similar to that of the utility companies in the United States.

Miss Janet Bond of the Canned Foods Advisory Bureau of the Metal Box Company, London, is carrying on a campaign planned to interest the homemaker in the use of canned foods. She is also giving authentic information to homemakers about the canning industry and the tin can as a container. The Canned Foods Advisory Bureau, established a year and a half ago, is attractively housed, having a reception room, a large kitchen suitable for demonstrations to a group, and a charming dining-room. A store-room, well stocked with canned food, is one of the features of the Bureau.

Women are invited to come to the Bureau to the two demonstrations given each week and they are also invited to come individually to consult Miss Bond about any of their problems concerning canned foods. The campaign is receiving fine cooperation from the women editors and also from the utility companies.

All the women with whom Miss Atwater had visits were greatly interested in the public relations work being done in the United States. Requests for the literature of the Home Economics Division and for photographs of the Division's new Service Kitchen were numerous.

Several of the English women in business have been in the United States and a number are coming to attend the International Home Management Conference which will be held the third week in September in Washington.

### Hops Marketing Plan Approved

Final approval of a marketing agreement and issuance of an order to regulate the handling in interstate and foreign commerce of hops produced in Oregon, California and Washington has been announced by the Agricultural Adjustment Administration. The marketing agreement program and order became effective August 11.

### Agricultural Research Laboratory Regions Named

Taking a step in carrying out that provision of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 which was designed to develop new uses and markets for farm products through research by establishing four regional laboratories, Secretary of Agriculture Wallace this week grouped the States into four major farm-producing areas. He also designated the surplus farm commodities on which the scientists will work during the initial program.

The act provided that not more than \$4,000,000 annually shall be used for the establishment and maintenance of these four laboratories. The Secretary stated that the work, in the initial stages of the program, will be concentrated on the following farm commodities and their by-products: In the Southern laboratory, cotton, sweet potatoes, and peanuts; in the Eastern laboratory, tobacco, apples, Irish potatoes, milk products, and vegetables; in the Northern laboratory, corn, wheat, and agricultural waste products; in the Western laboratory, fruits (other than apples) and vegetables, Irish potatoes, wheat, and alfalfa.

Secretary Wallace did not specify the cities in which the projects will be situated. The States in the four areas are:

Southern—Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma, South Carolina, and Texas.

Eastern—Connecticut, Delaware, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Vermont, Virginia, and West Virginia.

Northern—Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, Wisconsin, and Michigan.

Western—Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

### Fruit and Vegetable Market Competition

Carlot Shipments as Reported by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Department of Agriculture

VEGETABLES	Week ending—			Season total to—	
	Aug. 13 1937	Aug. 13 1938	Aug. 6 1938	Aug. 13 1937	Aug. 13 1938
Beans, snap and lima	20	1	7	8,054	8,086
Tomatoes	165	196	129	17,763	26,682
Green peas	272	276	185	5,648	4,614
Spinach	7	7	7	8,143	6,518
Others:					
Domestic, competing directly	1,735	1,547	1,595	123,085	116,556
Imports, competing indirectly	5	1	0	5	1
<b>FRUITS</b>					
Citrus, domestic	1,387	2,398	2,424	131,399	154,569
Imports	50	9	8	61	17
Others, domestic	4,295	3,552	3,167	20,358	24,649

### Temperature and Rainfall Records

The following table gives the average temperature and total rainfall for the principal growing districts for each of the last two weeks, as shown by the U. S. Weather Bureau reports for selected stations in these districts:

District	Week ended August 9, 1938		Week ended August 16, 1938	
	Temp.	Rain	Temp.	Rain
Maine	77	.0	70	.1
Western New York	79	.0	75	2.1
Tri-States	82	.5	82	.2
South Central Ohio	81	.7	79	.5
Central Indiana	81	.9	79	.2
Central Illinois	81	.8	80	.0
Northern Illinois, Southern Wisconsin	77	2.3	76	.6
Southern Minnesota	78	1.0	75	.3
Northern Colorado	80	.0	73	.2
Northern Utah	76	.5	73	.2
Northwestern Washington	64	.0	64	.3
Southeastern Washington	71	.0	70	.0

### 1939 AAA PROGRAM ANNOUNCED

#### Growers and Officials Urge Special Provisions to Stabilize Vegetable Production

Proposals that special provisions, designed to stabilize commercial vegetable crop production, be included in the 1939 farm program were made last week at a conference of about 100 farmer-committeemen and field officials of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration who met to suggest modifications in the 1938 program. The Administration has taken these proposals under advisement. Further conferences with producers will be held before action is taken.

The 1939 farm program, tentatively approved and announced this week by AAA, follows the recommendations made by the conference. The program differs little from the 1938 program. "Most of the modifications suggested were intended to strengthen the soil building and conservation phases of the program and to simplify and improve administration," H. R. Tolley, Administrator, said.

The principal changes deal with rates of payment and the additional amounts farmers may receive as price-adjustment payments, and with possible revisions in the acreage allot-

ments of certain commodities. In view of the current supply of cotton, the acreage allotment for cotton in 1939 will approximate the 27,500,000 acres allotted for 1938. A national wheat acreage allotment of 55,000,000 acres was announced July 15. Production of other crops will determine size of allotments.

Of particular interest to canners in the Northeast Region is the announcement that a vegetable acreage limit, equal to the acreage usually grown, will be established on "class B" farms (for definition see p. 5474, INFORMATION LETTER No. 688) in addition to special allotments. No information is available now as to whether any limitation that may be made for vegetable acreages in the Northeast Region will include crops grown for canning. No payment will be made for diverting general soil-depleting crops, and total soil-depleting acreage allotments will not be established.

In the B area of the Southern Region, general soil-depleting crop allotments will be determined only for those farms on which either feed crops or livestock products are grown for sale. In 1938, general soil-depleting crop allotments were established for farms in the Southern Region but these allotments made allowance for all food and feed crops needed for home use.

Contingent upon the appropriation of \$500,000,000 authorized for the program by Congress, the Administration will have this fund in addition to the price-adjustment appropriation of \$212,000,000 for carrying out the program.

Probable rates of payment under the soil conservation program for vegetable and orchards will be about the same as in 1938, that is, \$1.50 per acre for commercial vegetables, and \$2 per acre for commercial orchards.

So far as can be ascertained at present, it seems unlikely that any changes will be made in the definition of the term "commercial vegetables" as used in the 1938 program. They were defined as "the acreage of vegetables or truck crops . . . of which the principal part of the production is sold to persons not living on the farm." These vegetable and truck crops included "potatoes on farms where a potato acreage allotment is not established, sweet potatoes, tomatoes, sweet corn, melons, cantaloupes, strawberries, and commercial bulbs and flowers." Peas for canning, sweet corn for canning, "and artichokes for use other than as vegetables" are not included.

### Retail Sales Trends in July

Daily average sales of variety stores for July were about 9 per cent below July, 1937, according to the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce. Sales during July showed less than the usual seasonal decline from June and after adjustment for seasonal variations were higher than for any other month this year. The value of total sales for the first seven months of the year was about 6½ per cent below that for the corresponding period of 1937.

Daily average sales of general merchandise in small towns and rural areas for July were about 7½ per cent below July, 1937. Sales during July declined considerably more than the usual seasonal amount from June. For the first seven months of the year sales were 9 per cent below the same period of 1937.



### Cold Storage Holdings of Fishery Products

Cold storage holdings of fishery products in the United States on July 15 were 12 per cent greater than a year ago, and 31 per cent greater than the five-year average, according to the Bureau of Fisheries.

Holdings on July 15 amounted to 66,711,000 pounds, compared with 59,330,000 pounds on July 15, 1937, and the five-year average of 50,828,000 pounds.

During the month ended July 15, 22,589,000 pounds of fishery products were frozen, compared with 20,969,000 pounds frozen in the corresponding period of 1937.

### Cost of Growing Sweet Corn in Illinois

A mimeographed report on cost of growing sweet corn in Illinois in 1937 has recently been released by the Department of Agricultural Economics of the University of Illinois. Copies may be obtained upon inquiry directed to that office, at Urbana, Illinois.

### Recent Publications on Pacific Salmon

Studies on the migration and distribution of Pacific salmon have been published by the U. S. Bureau of Fisheries and will be of interest to canners of salmon. These publications may be secured from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. The first two cost 10 cents each, and the third 5 cents.

*Bulletin 25*, "The Migrations of Pink Salmon in the Clarence and Sumner Straits Regions of Southeastern Alaska," by Frederick A. Davidson and Leroy S. Christey, 1938.—This bulletin gives the results of migration studies based on tagging experiments in the regions indicated.

*Bulletin 26*, "The Geographic Distribution and Environmental Limitations of the Pacific Salmon," by Frederick A. Davidson and Samuel J. Hutchinson, 1938.—This bulletin contains a statement of the areas in which the Pacific salmon are found and the conditions apparently limiting their geographical distribution. It includes an extensive list of references to literature on the subject.

*Investigational Report No. 33*, "Physical and Chemical Changes in the Pink Salmon During the Spawning Migration," by Frederick A. Davidson and O. Eugene Shostrom, 1936.—The authors describe the life history of the pink salmon, as far as it is known, and give the results of their studies of the changes in physical conditions and chemical composition of the fish, which take place at certain periods of their life.

### 1937 Corn Sugar Production

Production of corn sugar in the United States was larger in 1937 than in 1935, but about 56 per cent less than in 1933, according to preliminary figures compiled from returns of the recent Biennial Census of Manufacturers, and released August 4 by the Census Bureau. Production during 1937 amounted to 467,650,734 pounds; 1935, 351,084,860 pounds; and 1933, 826,923,828 pounds.

### FSCC Buys 130,475 Cases of Ozark Tomatoes

Final acceptance for purchase of 130,475 cases of canned tomatoes from the 1937 pack in the Ozark area has been announced by the Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation. The Corporation, as related in last week's INFORMATION LETTER, had tentatively accepted 148,653 cases of No. 2's, 1,800 of 2½'s, and 3,800 of 10's, out of 443,307 cases of 2's, 26,314 cases of 2½'s, and 11,775 cases of No. 10's. Total offerings amounted to 482,396 cases and were received from 70 canners direct or through their authorized agents.

Acceptance of offers was conditioned upon canners furnishing the FSCC certified statements relative to the prices they paid or will pay growers for 1938 crop tomatoes to be used in canning. Certified statements already filed indicate that growers have been or will be paid \$12 to \$14 per ton for U. S. No. 1's, \$8 per ton for U. S. No. 2's, and \$10 to \$12 per ton for field run.

### FSCC to Buy Utah Canned Tomatoes

Utah 1937 crop canned tomatoes will be purchased by the Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation, it was announced August 18. Offers of sale must be received in the office of the FSCC purchasing agent, located at the county agent's office in Ogden, Utah, not later than noon on Monday, August 29. Tomatoes must be packed in No. 2½ size cans, must be equal to or better than U. S. Grade C, and offers of sale must provide for delivery to be made during the period September 12 to October 1.

Prices offered are to be f.o.b. canner's plants or warehouses. Labels will be furnished by the Corporation. Canners must submit a certified statement listing any growers not paid fully for the 1937 tomatoes, and another statement indicating the minimum prices they have contracted to pay or will pay growers for the 1938 crop tomatoes for canning.

### Canned Tomato Stocks and Shipments

Stocks of canned tomatoes in canners' hands, excepting in California, on August 1 totaled 1,865,147 cases, according to the Association's Division of Statistics. Of these stocks, 1,653,019 cases were unsold. Shipments of canned tomatoes during July amounted to 485,863 cases. The following table shows the location of the August 1 stocks by regions, excluding California, and shipments from these regions during July:

Region	Sold not shipped Cases	Unsold Cases	Total Cases	July shipments Cases
Northeast.....	34,686	73,708	108,394	52,189
Middle Atlantic..	15,508	66,111	81,619	76,865
Mid-West.....	133,416	665,482	798,898	144,311
Tenn. and Ky.....	.....	58,091	58,091	28,612
Ozark Territory...	.....	498,396	498,396	63,210
Western.....	28,518	291,231	319,749	120,676
Total, excluding California.	212,128	1,653,019	1,865,147	485,863

### Canned Corn Stocks and Shipments

Stocks of canned corn on August 1 and shipments during July, as compiled by the Association's Division of Statistics,

with comparative data for the preceding year, are shown in the following table:

	Cases
Stocks August 1, 1938.....	4,809,408
Sold not shipped.....	1,887,309
Unsold.....	2,922,099
Stocks July 1, 1938.....	5,638,989
Stocks August 1, 1937.....	777,741
Shipments during July 1938.....	829,581
Shipments during July 1937.....	221,865
Shipments August 1, 1937 to August 1, 1938.....	20,291,383
Shipments August 1, 1936 to August 1, 1937.....	14,678,172

The following table shows the August 1 stocks by regions, style of pack, and variety:

EASTERN	Sold Cases	Unsold Cases	Total Cases
<b>Cream Style:</b>			
Evergreen.....	31,317	251,510	282,827
Narrowgrain.....	45,127	62,103	107,230
Country Gentleman.....	5,447	38,155	43,602
Crosby.....	27,301	15,174	42,475
Bantam Yellow.....	261,001	108,637	369,638
<b>Whole Grain:</b>			
Bantam Yellow.....	103,250	60,753	164,003
White.....	41,845	31,768	73,613
<b>WESTERN</b>			
<b>Cream Style:</b>			
Evergreen.....	142,559	358,464	501,023
Narrowgrain.....	39,469	89,318	128,787
Country Gentleman.....	254,839	359,498	614,337
Crosby.....	5,745	19,576	25,321
Bantam Yellow.....	428,068	848,711	1,276,779
<b>Whole Grain:</b>			
Bantam Yellow.....	438,761	589,274	1,028,035
White.....	62,580	89,158	151,738

In addition to the above stocks, the following stocks of corn on the cob were reported: East, 852 cases, and West, 6,443 cases.

### Wholesale and Retail Prices

The following indexes on wholesale and retail prices are the latest now available. For wholesale prices 1926 is taken as 100 per cent while for retail prices they are based on the average for 1923-25 as 100 per cent.

Wholesale prices					
	Aug. 13, 1938	Aug. 6, 1938	July 30, 1938	Aug. 14, 1937	Aug. 15, 1936
All commodities...	77.9	78.4	78.6	87.5	81.1
All foods.....	72.2	73.5	74.1	86.5	82.6
Retail prices					
	July 12, 1938	June 14, 1938	May 17, 1938	July 13, 1937	July 15, 1932
All foods.....	80.0	80.2	79.1	85.9	68.3
Fresh fruits and vegetables.....	60.3	65.2	61.1	67.0	62.4
Canned fruits and vegetables.....	78.0	78.2	78.5	83.5	70.5

### Upturn in Farm Products Demand Forecast

A moderate improvement in consumer buying power and demand for farm products is in prospect for the fall and winter months, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics states in its current analysis of the demand and price situation for farm commodities.

The Bureau analysts point out that definite improvement in industrial activity and further depletion of inventories occurred during July. Though these factors indicate further increases in the output of consumers' goods and services, no large amount of forward buying is in prospect for the near future. This should help to sustain the improvement in future months, it was stated but also implies a less sharp initial upswing than has occurred in many recovery periods.

The Bureau lists some of the uncertain factors "which could seriously interrupt" the upward trend in business activity, but cites several favorable conditions "pointing to a continuation of the initial recovery movement." The latter include (1) the gradual increase in Government expenditures as new construction projects get under way; (2) increased needs for durable consumers' and producers' goods; (3) a favorable residential building situation; (4) the relatively small amount of financial deflation which occurred during the recession as compared with other similar periods.

The Bureau further points out that increased demand for most farm products must await actual improvement in consumer incomes. "And recognizing that consumer incomes lag behind and change less erratically than industrial activity, it appears that moderate improvement in consumer buying power and the domestic demand for farm products will be experienced during the fall and winter."

### CANNING ACTIVITY IN NAPLES

#### Smaller Packs of Cherries, Green Beans and Apricots Are Expected

The amount of cherries in syrup canned this season in the Naples district of Italy will be about 30 per cent less than last year because the cherry crop has been deficient in both quantity and quality, according to a mid-July report from the American consulate general in Naples.

The canned green bean production will be from 60 to 70 per cent less than a year ago. The cause of this shortage is inferior quality, as the quantity of green beans appears to be about normal.

Canners say that the production this year of apricots in syrup will be about the same as in the 1937 season.

There has been no great activity in the shipment of tomato products to England and the United States although moderate consignments have been made to each of those countries. The existing tomato products carryover is small.

It is too early to estimate this year's production of canned tomato products because the canners are waiting for quotations on the raw tomatoes and definite information with regard to the quantity and quality of the crop. The general expectation in the trade is that the 1938 prices for these goods will be slightly higher than those applicable to last year's production. A few English buyers have sent in small orders for future shipments at prices to be fixed later in conformity with generally established quotations.

June declared exports to the United States from Naples were 3,307,572 pounds of peeled tomatoes, and 799,160 pounds of sauce, a total of 4,106,732 pounds compared with 5,097,808 pounds in May, 1938, and a total of 3,646,078 pounds in June, 1937.

## FRUIT CROP PROSPECTS

### Estimates of Yield Made by Bureau on Bases of August 1 Reports

Growing conditions during July were favorable in most areas for the development of fruit crops, and prospective crops of apples, pears, grapes, plums, and prunes are slightly larger than indicated a month earlier, according to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. August 1 indications point to a combined production of apples, peaches, pears, grapes, cherries, plums, prunes, and apricots of 9,002,000 tons (fresh basis) compared with 11,240,000 tons in 1937, and the 10-year (1927-36) average of 8,739,000 tons. The indicated crops of apples and apricots are 11 and 19 per cent, respectively, below the 10-year average, but other major deciduous fruit crops are above average.

**APPLES.**—August 1 condition indicates a total apple crop of 134,867,000 bushels. This represents a change of only 473,000 bushels from the July 1 estimate of 134,394,000 bushels, but is nearly 36 per cent smaller than was produced last year, and about 11 per cent smaller than the 10-year average.

**PEACHES.**—Indicated production, on the basis of August 1 conditions, is 1 per cent lower than on July 1. The prospective crop of 53,140,000 bushels is 11 per cent smaller than the crop of 59,724,000 bushels produced in 1937, but is slightly larger than the 10-year average of 52,498,000 bushels.

Condition of the crop in California points to a production of 20,449,000 bushels in that State compared with 23,252,000 bushels in 1937, and the 10-year average of 22,135,000 bushels. Growing conditions in California were favorable during July and clingstone peaches show prospects for a somewhat larger crop than indicated on July 1. Prospective production of both clingstone and freestones is below the 10-year average.

**PEARS.**—With generally favorable conditions prevailing during July, pear prospects improved and the crop is now indicated to be 31,662,000 bushels. This would be the largest crop yet produced, exceeding the previous record crop of 29,548,000 bushels produced last year by 7 per cent, and the 10-year average of 24,326,000 bushels by 30 per cent. Especially good prospects are noted in the important commercial producing areas. In the Pacific States, prospects improved during July in California, declined slightly in Washington, and remained unchanged in Oregon.

**PLUMS AND PRUNES.**—The indicated 1938 production of plums and prunes for fresh use and for canning in California, Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and Michigan totals 148,100 tons compared with 133,100 tons in 1937 and with the 10-year average of 129,510 tons. Prospective production of prunes for drying in California, Oregon, and Washington is indicated to be 292,600 tons (dry basis) compared with 256,200 tons in 1937 and with the 10-year average of 226,930 tons.

**CITRUS FRUITS.**—Growing conditions remained favorable throughout most of the Florida citrus area during July. Ample rainfall and good growing weather tended to improve quality and promote sizing of fruit from the heavy, late bloom. Dropping of fruit is reported in some sections but does not appear to be excessive. Rainfall was light in the Lower

Valley of Texas during the month. Trees are still in good condition, however, except in some groves which have not been irrigated. California citrus crops from the 1938 bloom progressed under favorable conditions during July.

**CHERRIES.**—Total cherry production in the 12 important States is estimated at 139,140 tons. This represents a decline of 1,030 tons from the 140,170 tons indicated on July 1, and is 31 per cent greater than the 10-year average of 116,309 tons. The 1937 crop amounted to 144,720 tons. The crop has turned out better than expected in Ohio, Montana, Idaho, Colorado, Utah, and Washington, but was lower than indicated on July 1 in New York, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, and Oregon.

Dry weather, which prevented full sizing of fruit, and some dropping, resulted in a New York crop much smaller than was expected a month ago. Some sweet cherries in Pennsylvania were damaged by cracking. Sour cherries in northern Ohio were a very poor crop, due to spring freezes, but there were some fair crops of sweet varieties. A fair crop of sweet cherries was harvested in Michigan, but the crop of sour cherries was extremely small. In Colorado, Idaho, and Montana crops of good quality and size were produced. The Washington and Oregon crops were damaged by rain, though the Washington crop was larger than anticipated.

### Dried Peach Purchase Program Announced

Surplus dried peaches in California will be bought by the Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation, according to announcement on August 19. Both freestone and clings will be bought. Purchases will be made from growers, their associations, or packers through authorized agents.

### CONTENTS

	PAGE
Andrews takes oath of office	5597
Food standards committee named	5597
Seeks canners' approval of size changes	5598
Consumer movement in England	5598
Hops marketing plan approved	5598
Agricultural research laboratory regions named	5598
Fruit and vegetable market competition	5599
Temperature and rainfall records	5599
1939 AAA program announced	5599
Retail sales trends in July	5599
Cold storage holdings of fishery products	5600
Cost of growing sweet corn in Illinois	5600
Recent publications on Pacific salmon	5600
1937 corn sugar production	5600
FSCC buys 130,475 cases of Ozark tomatoes	5600
FSCC to buy Utah canned tomatoes	5600
Canned tomato stocks and shipments	5600
Canned corn stocks and shipments	5600
Wholesale and retail prices	5601
Upturn in farm products demand forecast	5601
Canning activity in Naples	5601
Fruit Crop Prospects	5602
Dried peach purchase program announced	5602